

E GIRLS ARE MORE INTO CATFIGHTS THAN CATWALKS

bunch of FIVES

Pictures: WWE INC.



Michelle

Age: 21

From: Florida

Career highlight: The former schoolteacher, left, says she went into wrestling to teach men about the birds and the bees and carries a cane to punish those who cause problems in class.



Candice

Age: 24

From: Milwaukee

Career highlight: Candice, right, once knocked out a referee in the ring and became famous across the US by baring all in a TV parody of Janet Jackson's famous "wardrobe malfunction".



Maria

Age: 23

From: Illinois

Career highlight: Maria is the locker room correspondent for WWE and regularly gets strangers in the crowd to snog with her roving "Kiss Cam".

Torrie

Age: 26

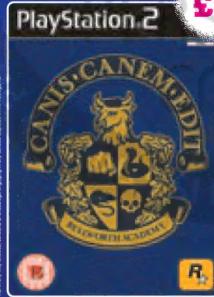
From: Idaho

Career highlight: Torrie took part in the most-purchased match on WWE24/7 online - a bikini contest against Sable back in 2002 in which she wore a micro-bikini that has gone down in WWE history. The pair sealed the match with a steamy kiss.



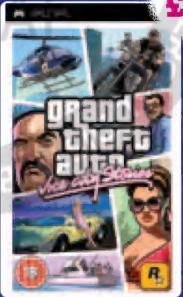
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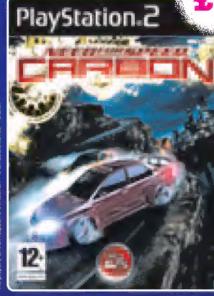
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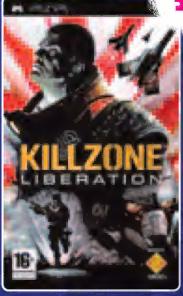
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STAR FILM

ALAN FRANK'S *back ROW*

STUDENTS' Get



UPLIFTING: Scarlett gives a memorable supporting act

Brilliant box of tricks



THE PRESTIGE (15)

"A REAL magician tries to invent something new that other magicians are gonna scratch their heads over," says expert Christian Bale. That makes Christopher Nolan, director and co-writer of this compelling thriller, a classic movie magician.

Even if you keep your eyes wide open and your wits about you, as advised by Michael Caine's canny inventor of stage illusions, the chances are Nolan will fool you.

Turn-of-the-century London magicians, suave sophisticated Hugh Jackman and working-class hardman Bale start off as colleagues only to

end up as vicious no-holds-barred rivals for fame and fortune after an appalling fatal accident on stage.

Jackman and Bale are superb, Caine gives his best performance in ages, David Bowie makes a magical impression as an oddball American electrical genius and Scarlett Johansson's bra deserves the Supporting Oscar.

Nolan pulls one ingenious rabbit after another out of his cinematic hat and brilliantly bamboozles you time and again right up to the gobsmacking climax. He fooled me and I had my eyes skinned; next time I see it, maybe I'll get it right.

VERDICT: 9/10

WIN JENNIFER ANISTON DVDS SEE PAGE 46

ROMP GIVES LESSON IN LAUGHS

Quizzical! NERD HAS THE ANSWERS

the right stuff, but has less success in his close encounters of the romantic kind with either sexy Alice Eve or cute but deeply serious Rebecca Hall.

First-time director Tom Vaughan's 1980s-set rom-com has a funny, sharply characterised script packed with good gags and spot-on casting.

Lust

McAvoy is terrific as the gleefully corrupted innocent. Delicious Eve (daughter of Trevor), playing his gorgeous team-mate and

object of lust is like a young, talented Joanna Lumley, while Hall holds her own as a campus protester.

Charles Dance and Lindsay Duncan get their kit off and hilariously scare Our Hero rigid during a doped up Christmas and you'll find yourself hooting with laughter at the wicked impersonation of original University Challenge presenter Bamber Gascoigne by Mark Gatiss.

Gatiss alone is worth paying to see in this lively laugh-a-minute British comedy which is a not-to-be-missed pleasure.



ALSO SHOWING



HE'S BEHIND YOU: The monster pounces in *The Host*

Tadpole's a terror hit

THE HOST (15)

A HIGHLY enjoyable vein of broad comedy and crazy characterisation runs through this cracking Korean monster movie.

But, happily, humour never dilutes a classy shocker which does the business superbly when it comes to thrilling and chilling.

It's an immensely entertaining throwback to 1950s monster movies, with pollution rather than nuclear radiation being blamed for the gigantic mutant tadpole-like creature that abruptly erupts from the river and goes on a wild rampage in Seoul.

The special effects that bring the galloping, people-gulping big beast to all-too-convincing lethal life are first rate. A tangy flavouring of political satire gives the man-versus-monster show an engaging edge and a good scary time is had by all.

VERDICT: 8/10

TWELVE AND HOLDING (15)
FANCY another melodramatic coming-of-age saga that goes behind small-town USA's picket fences and reveals the seething shenanigans they conceal?

Then this lurid show should do the trick nicely. Its heady ingredients include arson, murder and a

12-year-old girl's attempt to seduce a thirtyish construction worker. And, remember, it's not over till the fat lady slims!

VERDICT: 5/10

PURITAN (12A)
MURDER, mystery, heavy helpings of galloping pretension and

near-adequate acting are the hallmarks of an over-stylised thriller with supernatural overtones.

Ex-TV cop David Soul (of *Starsky and Hutch* fame) turns up – but not for long – and while eerie atmosphere is laid on in spades, real scares are few and far between.

VERDICT: 4/10

UK TOP 10

1 (-) BORAT	£6,242,344
2 (1) SAW III	£1,403,657
3 (2) STEP UP	£696,369
4 (3) THE DEPARTED	£556,823
5 (5) THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA	£460,062
6 (4) OPEN SEASON	£402,941
7 (6) BARNYARD: THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS	£355,612
8 (-) SIXTY SIX	£292,295
9 (8) HISTORY BOYS	£176,329
10 (-) LITTLE CHILDREN	£158,012

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US TOP 10

1 (-) BORAT	\$26,455,463
2 (-) THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE	\$19,504,038
3 (-) FLUSHED AWAY	\$18,814,323
4 (1) SAW III	\$14,805,871
5 (2) THE DEPARTED	\$7,722,388
6 (3) THE PRESTIGE	\$7,505,268
7 (4) FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS	\$4,419,657
8 (7) MAN OF THE YEAR	\$3,665,580
9 (5) OPEN SEASON	\$2,968,832
10 (-) THE QUEEN	\$2,909,966

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DVD TOP 10

1 (-) ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN
2 (-) THE OMEN 666
3 (2) X-MEN: THE LAST STAND
4 (-) AN UNFINISHED LIFE
5 (1) THE DA VINCI CODE
6 (3) POSEIDON
7 (4) V FOR VENDETTA
8 (10) HOSTEL
9 (7) FIREWALL
10 (5) SILENT HILL

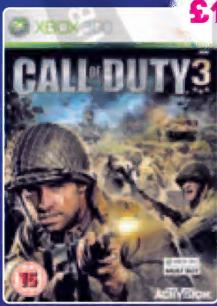
COMING SOON

NEXT WEEK: Welcome the latest James Bond, played by Daniel Craig, who battles to stop a banker winning at a casino tournament and using the money to finance worldwide terrorism in the eagerly-awaited action thriller *Casino Royale*.

THE WEEK AFTER: The humour's wild and the rock music's even wilder when naive Jack Black teams up with guitar-playing slacker Kyle Glass in a zany band – and the pair then set out to rob a rock 'n' roll museum in the ace comedy *Tenacious D In The Pick of Destiny*.

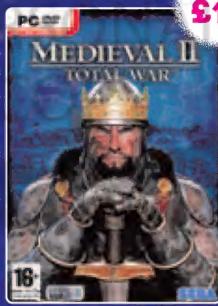
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A prediction for the week. Christy Hemme will be the first TNA Women's Champion. Not Gail Kim. So there.

FIGHTIN' TALK

patrick.lennon@dailystar.co.uk

Edited by
PATRICK LENNON

Don't take the Mick



...OR YOU'LL ANSWER TO SEAMUS

WWE are in the thick of their Survivor Series tour this week, hoping to again cash in on British fans' fervour for their product.

The Tag title change at Cyber Sunday was a refreshing surprise, and Nitro nicking the IC title from Jeff Hardy on RAW means we've at least seen a bit of ebb and flow this week.

Some might think it'll be as you were in terms of the gold when they jet off next Wednesday! We can all remember the Regal tag team tease the last time we had TV in Manchester.

Having Flair and Piper as tag champs kills the Spirit Squad stone dead. Legends they certainly are, but in an athletic contest, two guys whose combined age weighs in at over a ton kicking the arse off the young fit blokes does SS no favours. Split 'em and let Ken Doane et al show us what they are made of.

King Booker rules Smackdown, Cena still has his belt, although his machinations with Federline take the rub off him, and Show will not

EXCLUSIVE

be ECW Champion when he emerges from the Elimination Chamber. Smart money is on Sabu, or Test from where FT sits.

Pairing DX with Edge and Randy Orton is a fine plan, which offers WWE plenty of potential main event material until the New Year.

Whenever the planet's biggest wrestling show heads here, opportunity knocks for a few lucky locals.

Jobbing in dark matches is the order of the day, but I'm sure Charlie Rage enjoyed his Wembley outing against Big Show.

Impact

For many wrestlers, it's a valuable shot at the big time. Burchill and Nikita were both picked up on tour.

Irish Curse Seamus O'Shaughnessy plans to follow them. Mike Bucci has hired him for the show on Monday in Manchester, and the 6ft 6in Dubliner plans to make an impact.

As you can see from my exclusive pictures, he's certainly got the look. It doesn't take a crystal ball to imagine him tagging with Dave Finlay

very soon on Smackdown - just like Burchill and Regal last year.

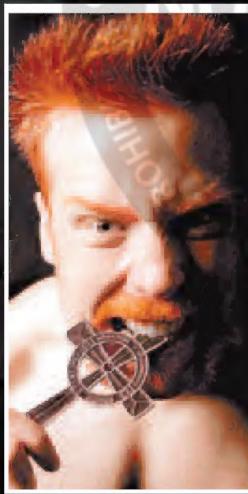
He tells me: "Frankly, I'll fight anyone given a shot. Most of my wrestling heroes have long since retired, but as an Irishman I love Finlay to his bones. I'd rather be on his side fighting against the likes of HHH & Sean Michaels (DX), now that would be a brawl!"

And he doesn't want top go the way of the plastic Paddy either. He growls: "Pop culture has painted us as Guinness-soaked potato-eating stereotypes living in thatched cottages smoking pipes. The essence of SOS stems from readressing this to become a positive cultural icon."

FT doubts WWE Creative will see it those terms, but good luck pal!

This week sees the build-up to Survivor Series, so expect Cena and Show to be bouncing off each other. Flair and Piper must defend, as will Nitro and Lita, perhaps for the last time on PPV?

RAW and ECW are at the Nottingham Arena tonight, at Butlin's Minehead tomorrow and in Birmingham on Sunday. They're on TV at MEN Manchester on Monday and Smackdown is on Tuesday.



Brits' aim is just quality

THERE have been lots of calls over the years for Britain's many promoters to unite under one banner and strengthen the industry. Moves are afoot under the label "RQW" or "Real Quality Wrestling". Len Davies is the man behind the project.

The idea is to promote decent British wrestling shows with high quality in ring performance and top production values under the banner of RQW. If promoters rally to the cause British wrestling just might gain momentum.

The first RQW event is on tomorrow night in London's York Hall, Bethnal Green (08712220260). Doug Williams and Martin Stone are the main event on a card, also featuring Pac, The Pukka One Darren Burridge and James Tighe. There'll be one a month there from now.



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TV GUIDE

BBC One

6.00 **Breakfast** (W) (S) 69665749
 9.15 **Animal 24-7** (W) (S) 3529519
10.00 City Hospital (W) (S) Followed by BBC News, (S) Weather, 15126
11.00 To Buy Or Not To Buy (R) (W) (S) 522478
11.45 Hard Sell (W) (S) Followed by BBC News, (W) (S) Weather, 478768
12.15 Cash In The Attic (S) 7821855
1.00 BBC News, (W) (S) Weather 77738
1.30 Local News, (W) (S) Weather 2111233
1.40 Neighbours (AD) (S) 77574519
2.05 Doctors (W) (S) 8401107
2.35 Murder, She Wrote The husband of a daytime soap queen is shot dead. (R.S) 2047652
3.20 BBC News, (W) (S) Local News, Weather 3317294
3.25 CBBC: ChuckleVision (AD) (R) (W) (S) 1878403 3.40 Arthur (AD) (W) (S) 9680720 3.55 Pinky And The Brain (AD) (R) (W) (S) 3166756 4.15 The Basil Brush Show (R) (W) (S) 4573000 4.45 Keep Your Hair On: Celebrity Scissors (W) (S) 2267836 4.55 The Slammer (R) (W) (S) 1384229
5.25 Newsround (W) (S) 8840710
5.35 Neighbours Anne makes Bee feel guilty. (AD) (R) (W) (S) 598652
6.00 BBC News (W) (S) 107
6.30 Local News (W) (S) 687



A QUESTION OF SPORT: Kelly Holmes will be hoping for a winning performance on the quiz, 7pm

BBC Two

7.00 CBBC: Batfink (R) (W) (S) 3032652 7.05 Trollz (R) (W) (S) 2305652 7.30 Roar (W) (S) 37958
8.30 CBeebies: Charlie And Lola (R) (W) (S) 1707126 8.40 Boogie Bees (R) (W) (S) 1878923 9.15 Tweenies (R) (W) (S) 1878923
9.15 Something Special (R) (W) (S) 7157671 9.30 Big Cook Little Cook (R) (W) (S) 6190855 9.50 Lunar Jim (R) (W) (S) 7320836 10.00 Barnaby Bear (AD) (R) (W) (S) 6419213
10.15 Our Planet (R) (S) 6409836
10.30 Schools 50774
12.00 The Daily Politics With Jenny Scott, (W) (S) 12823
12.30 Working Lunch Adrian Chiles and Adam Shaw discuss the latest business stories. (S) 79478
1.30 Coast (W) (S) 84916958
1.35 FILM: The Day They Gave Babies Away 1957 (U) An immigrant couple move to America. Melodrama based on the true story, starring Glynis Johns. (S) 42588478
3.15 Castle In The Country With Nicki Chapman. (W) (S) 739381
3.45 Flog It! (W) (S) 1029381
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook With Tony Tobin. (W) (S) 6991923
5.15 Weakest Link Quiz, hosted by Anne Robinson. (W) (S) 3952045
6.00 Sudo-Q Quiz show. (W) (S) 749
6.30 Strictly Come Dancing – It Takes Two (W) (S) 229



GARDENERS' WORLD: Joe Swift prepares for a colourful winter, 8.30pm

Channel 4

6.10 The Hoobs (AD) (R,S) 3552720
6.35 The Hoobs (AD) (R,S) 3692107
7.00 Freshly Squeezed 96045
7.30 Friends (AD) (R,S) 4668519
7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond (R,S) 4563010
8.25 Will & Grace (R,S) 5467687
8.55 Frasier (R,S) 9822923
9.30 New Boy (R,S) 18855
10.30 A-Z Of Your Head (R,S) Followed by Tate Modern. (R,S) 66958
11.30 Freshly Squeezed Sketch show. (S) Followed by National Gallery. (R,S) 7213
12.00 News At Noon (S) 93381
12.30 The King Of Queens Carrie hires a maid. (R,S) 32768
1.00 Channel 4 Racing From Cheltenham Alastair Down presents live coverage of today's feature races on the first day of the Open meeting. (S) 267132
3.30 Countdown (S) 3656010
4.15 Deal Or No Deal Gameshow, with Noel Edmonds. (S) 3673497
5.00 The New Paul O'Grady Show Suranne Jones drops in for a chat. (S) 2300
6.00 The Simpsons Bart and Lisa help a down-and-out man who claims to have devised the Itchy and Scratchy Show. With the guest voice of Kirk Douglas. (R,S) 395
6.30 Hollyoaks The Dog in the Pond reopens. (S) 497



THE NEW PAUL O'GRADY SHOW: Suranne Jones chats to the comedian, 5pm

Five

6.00 Milkshake! The Save-Ums! (R,S) 16955809 6.10 Bear In The Big Blue House. (R,S) 26169213 6.40 Roobarb And Custard Too (R,S) 75751300 6.50 Hi-5 (R) (SL) (S) 6489749 7.25 Rupert Bear (S) 4259300 7.45 Make Way For Noddy (R,S) 5518107 8.00 Fifi And The Flowertots (R,S) 5870279 8.15 Peppa Pig (R,S) 2239652 8.25 Thomas & Friends (S) 6325364 8.40 Bird Bath (S) 4099861 8.50 Mio Mao (S) 4095045
9.00 The Wright Stuff (S) 8131300
10.30 Trisha Goddard (S) 8480478
11.30 five news (S) 3237720
12.00 Home And Away Amanda threatens to call off the search. (AD) (R) (SL) (S) 7065381
12.30 BrainTeaser Quiz. 25209652
1.40 FILM: Rescuers: Stories Of Courage – Two Women 1997 (PG) The tales of two brave women who risk everything to aid persecuted Jews during the Second World War. Drama, starring Elizabeth Perkins and Anne Jackson. (S) 5001593
3.50 FILM: I Love You, I Love You Not 1996 (PG) Drama, starring Jeanne Moreau. (S) 6869923
5.30 five news (S) 2226316
6.00 Home And Away Amanda and Beth clash. (AD) (S) 2223229
6.30 In The Grid Quiz show. Followed by Weather. 2134381



CRYING FREEMAN: Mark Dacascos stars in this action thriller, 10pm

ITV1

5.30 ITV News (S) 96126
6.00 GMTV (W) (S) 8016958
9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show Talk show. (W) (S) 6596590
10.30 This Morning (W) (S) 74300
12.00 This Morning: I'm A Celebrity – Jungle Fever 12869
12.30 Loose Women Chris De Burgh talks about his world tour and performs in the studio. Further music is provided by Angelis. Former Coronation Street star Johnny Briggs also drops in. (W) (S) 62132
1.30 ITV News (S) 33497
2.00 The Price Is Right Joe Pasquale hosts. (W) (S) 1671
2.30 Dickinson's Real Deal Joan and daughter Ann seek the opinion of expert Clive Attrell when selling the family jewellery, but his low offer prompts them to consult David Dickinson. (W) (S) 69855
3.28 Local Weather (S) 3407861
3.30 CITY: Pocoyo (W) (S) 5828958
3.35 Mr Bean: The Animated Series (R,S) 1461328 3.55 Tricky Quirkies (W) 2849294 4.00 Horrid Henry (W) (S) 8909497 4.15 Bel's Boys (AD) (R) (W) (S) 8973720 4.30 The New Worst Witch (W) 710
5.00 The Price Is Right Double bill. Joe Pasquale hosts the classic gameshow. (W) (S) 4958
6.00 Local News (S) 403
6.30 ITV News (S) 855



CORONATION STREET: Becky turns up at Roy's Rolls with a request for Hayley, 7.30pm

7 PM

7.00 A Question Of Sport With Olympic champions Kelly Holmes and Adrian Moorhouse. (W) (S) 9949
7.30 My Family Susan gets fed up with doing the housework and decides to hire a cleaner. (R) (W) (S) 671

8.00 EastEnders Billy struggles to keep a lid on his feelings as Honey sets the wheels in motion for the adoption. (AD) (S) 3039
8.30 Out-Take TV Anne Robinson presents another hilarious collection of blunders and mishaps. (W) (S) 8774

9.00 Have I Got News For You Damian Lewis guest hosts the satirical current affairs quiz, with team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton. (W) (S) 3010
9.30 Not Going Out Lee has to leave the flat. (W) (S) 29294

10.00 BBC News (W) (S) 62300

10.30 Local News, (W) (S) Weather 480297
10.35 Friday Night With Jonathan Ross The host is joined by Emma Thompson, who talks about starring with Dustin Hoffman in her latest film Stranger Than Fiction. (W) (S) 862294

11.35 FILM: Beverly Hills Cop II 1987 (15) Comedy. Eddie Murphy reprises his role as wisecracking Detroit lawman Axel Foley, who revisits Los Angeles to investigate a spate of violent robberies. Eventually, he finds himself up against an illegal arms dealer who uses a glamorous hit-woman to do his dirty work. (S) Followed by Weatherview. 918403
1.20 BBC News 24 41163492

8 PM

7.00 The Perils Of The Motorway Pitstop Libby Potter reports on the companies refurbishing Britain's motorway services. (W) (S) 1861
7.30 The Trees That Made Britain Tony Kirkham visits Brighton. (AD) (W) (S) 213

8.00 Johnny Kingdom – A Year On Exmoor Wild boar are let loose in the Devonshire countryside. (AD) (W) (S) 4381
8.30 Gardeners' World Joe Swift recounts viewer's stories of growing chillies. (W) (S) 6316

9.00 Simon Schama's Power Of Art Jacques-Louis David's painting of The Death of Marat, which saw the artist who made his name working for the French king turn his talents to revolutionary propaganda. (AD) (W) (S) 3749

10.00 QI Stephen Fry hosts the comedy panel game with regular contributor Alan Davies and guests Julian Clary, Jo Brand and Dara O'Briain. (W) (S) 62382
10.30 Newsnight Gavin Esler presents a round-up of the day's events. (W) (S) 81590

11.00 Newsnight Review Kirsty Wark presents a round-table discussion of the week's cultural highlights. (W) (S) 82855
11.35 Later With Jools Holland With Former Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker and Kasabian. (W) (S) 904294

12.40 Originals: BBC Four on BBC Two (W) (S) 7430695 1.40 Close 2.00 BBC Learning Zone 96633 2.30 Jump Over Your Shadow 75140 3.00 Bringing Home The Bacon 60695 3.30 In The Nick Of Time 66492 4.00 Global Fantasy 2 87985 4.30 Manchester Divided! (S) 61324 5.00 Following A Score (S) 28121 5.30 Civil War (S) 69343

9 PM

9.00 Simon Schama's Power Of Art Jacques-Louis David's painting of The Death of Marat, which saw the artist who made his name working for the French king turn his talents to revolutionary propaganda. (AD) (W) (S) 3749

10.00 8 Out Of 10 Cats Irreverent panel show hosted by Jimmy Carr. (S) 248045
10.35 Bo! In The USA Avid arranges for his wife to meet former Superman Dean Cain. Emma Bunton and Holly Valance guest star. (S) 114294

11.10 Man To Man With Dean Learner Guitarist Merriman Weir guests on the spoof chat show. (S) 151300
11.40 My Name Is Earl Joy tells Earl he isn't invited to her wedding. (R,S) 108478

12.10 The Album Chart Show 7416256 12.45 Gumball 3000 59508 1.15 Late Night Poker Masters (R) 4872140 2.20 FILM: Kontroll 2003 (15) Premiere. Thriller, starring Sandor Csanyi. (W) 350140 4.15 South American Championship Football 3692184 5.10 Countdown (R,S) 2339099

10 PM

11 PM

10.00 FILM: Crying Freeman 1995 (15) An assassin defies his gangland bosses to protect a female target, leading to a deadly battle against a seemingly endless array of killers determined to eliminate him. Engaging action thriller with realistic fight scenes, starring Mark Dacascos, Julie Condra Douglas, Rae Dawn Chong and Tchéky Karyo. Includes five news update at 10.55. (AD) (S) 3247107

11.00 Hell's Kitchen Final Gordon Ramsay presides as the two remaining competitors, Heather and Virginia, take on the final challenge before the winner is crowned. Last in series. (S) 855720

12 PM

12.00 Russ Meyer: King Of Sexploitation Profile of the cult film director, examining the influence his unique brand of over-the-top sex and violence has had on cinema. (R,S) 7025053 1.00 The Great Big British Quiz 47444633 5.35-6.00 Wildlife SOS (R,S) 93666459

12.40 Make Your Play Interactive game show offering viewers the chance to use their skill and judgement to win night cash prizes of up to £50,000. (W) Followed by ITV News. 44105558
4.25 Too Many Cooks (R) (SL) (W) (S) 7352121 5.00-5.30 ITV Nightscreen 55275

12 midnight

9.00 Blue Murder An engraved hip flask found beside human remains in a lake leads Janine to a once successful architect who is now confined to an institution. The ensuing investigation uncovers male rivalries that indicate the man may have good reason to hide his fear behind the pretence of madness. Crime drama, starring Caroline Quentin. Last in series. (W) (S) 6107
10.30 ITV News Including Local News and Weather. (S) 85316

11.00 Hell's Kitchen Final Gordon Ramsay presides as the two remaining competitors, Heather and Virginia, take on the final challenge before the winner is crowned. Last in series. (S) 855720

12.40 Make Your Play Interactive game show offering viewers the chance to use their skill and judgement to win night cash prizes of up to £50,000. (W) Followed by ITV News. 44105558
4.25 Too Many Cooks (R) (SL) (W) (S) 7352121 5.00-5.30 ITV Nightscreen 55275

(S) SUBTITLES (R) REPEAT (AD) AUDIO DESCRIPTION (SL) SIGN LANGUAGE (W) WIDESCREEN

ITV2

9.25 **Coronation Street** (AD) (R) (W) (S) 1996923
 9.55 **Emmerdale** (R) (S) 1086045
 10.25 **The Montel Williams Show** Topical debate, 2228958
 11.10 **Judge Judy** (R) (S) 3590836
 12.30 **Coronation Street** (AD) (R) (W) (S) 34213
 1.00 **Emmerdale** (R) (W) (S) 82836
 1.30 **The Jeremy Kyle Show** Talk show, (R) (W) (S) 5797720
 2.35 **The Jeremy Kyle Show** Talk show, (R) (W) (S) 1192213
 3.40 **Ricki Lake** (R) 7742768
 4.30 **Sally Jessy Raphael** US chat show, (R) 8421749
 5.15 **Judge Judy** (R) 639942
 5.45 **Celebrity Daredevils** Celebrity Big Brother winner Bez takes charge of some of the world's biggest trucks, (R) 845687
 6.00 **The New Adventures Of Superman** Sci-fi drama, (R) 15132
 7.00 **The Xtra Factor: The Aftermath** Exclusive news and insider knowledge of the talent show, (R) (W) 43836
 8.00 **The Xtra Factor: Xcess** All Areas, (W) 52564
 9.00 **Film: Die Another Day** 2002 (12) James Bond sets out to exact revenge on the villains responsible for his capture by the North Koreans. Starring Pierce Brosnan, 45078316

11.35 **James Bond: For Real** The work of the stunt team on the latest Bond film Casino Royale, 472045
 12.05 **Coronation Street** (AD) (R) (W) (S) 7397966 12.35 **The Prestige**: Now That's Magic 2992891 1.05 Hell's Kitchen Raw 8043817 2.05 Playdate: ITV Play (W) 8390724 4.00 Playalong: ITV Play 87072

ITV3

5.05 **ITV3 Nightscreen** 3754039
 6.00 **Survival** (R) 6014749
 6.55 **Film File** 37960316
 7.05 **Peak Practice** (R) 2607749
 8.05 **Ironside** (R) 4357687
 9.05 **The Rockford Files** 7835671
 10.10 **Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime** Drama, (R) 7696590
 11.15 **Pie In The Sky** (R) 4443584
 12.20 **Rumpole Of The Bailey** Courtroom drama, (R) 2236039
 1.25 **Faith In The Future** Comedy, with Lynda Bellingham, (R) 5664519
 2.00 **Faith In The Future** Comedy, starring Julia Sawalha, (R) 7079590
 2.35 **Ironside** (R) 8264497
 3.35 **Goodnight Sweetheart** Time-travelling comedy, (R) 9724497
 4.10 **The Rockford Files** Detective drama, (R) 7907497
 5.10 **Peak Practice** A local lad has something to hide, (R) (S) 2517381
 6.15 **Goodnight Sweetheart** Gary's sudden personality change shocks Phoebe and Ron, 5483749
 6.55 **Rumpole Of The Bailey** Courtroom drama, (R) 8169316
 8.05 **The Two Ronnies** Vintage comedy, (R) 4403584
 9.00 **LA Baftas** Coverage of the awards ceremony. Guests include Clint Eastwood, 5566294
 10.00 **Film: In The Heat Of The Night** 1967 (15) Thriller, starring Rod Steiger, 59195045
 12.10 **Film: Punchline** 1988 (15) 92838492 2.35 Noah's Ark (R) 2892508 3.30 Teleshopping 7367427

ITV4

6.00 **Married - With Children** Chaotic American comedy, 6784855
 6.30 **Married - With Children** Kelly dumps her boyfriend, (R) 67839107
 7.00 **Now And Again** (R) 58655403
 8.00 **Martial Law** (R) 58568923
 9.00 **Homicide: Life On The Street** The team tackle a triple murder of a divorced woman and her two children. Drama, starring Richard Belzer, (R) 58651687
 10.00 **Film: Cat's Eye** 1985 (15) Stephen King anthology, with Drew Barrymore, 28150958
 11.50 **Dinner For Five** Daryl Hannah, Marilyn Manson and Andy Dick join director Jon Favreau, 21844720
 12.30 **LAPD: Life On The Beat** (R) 55695508 12.55 **LAPD: Life On The Beat** (R) 33429527 1.25 **Film: Cat's Eye** 1985 (15) With Drew Barrymore, 92323430 3.15 **Married - With Children** (R) 44908091 3.45 Teleshopping, 7702879 5.45 **ITV4 Nightscreen** 32278879



BLUE MURDER: ITV1, 9pm

ALAN FRANK'S TELLY MOVIES

STAR RATINGS

****Don't miss it ****Good ***Average **Time filler *Garbage!

■ **THE DAY THEY GAVE BABIES AWAY** (1957) *** BBC2 1.35-3.15pm. Fact-based melodrama. Pioneering Scottish husband-and-wife Cameron Mitchell and Glynis Johns set up home in the United States and then are forced to struggle to ensure their six children enjoy a secure future. Also starring Patty McCormack.

■ **RESCUE: STORIES OF COURAGE - TWO WOMEN** (TVM, 1997) *** Five 1.40-3.50pm. Fact-based drama. Two women who are caught up in WW2 are moved to take action when the Nazis start their persecution of the Jewish population. Co-starring Elizabeth Perkins, Anne Jackson and Sela Ward.

■ **I LOVE YOU, I LOVE YOU NOT** (1996) ***

■ **Five 5.30-5.50pm.** Drama. Shy Jewish girl Claire Danes is encouraged by her grandmother Jeanne Moreau to be more open when she finds herself struggling to hide her roots from other pupils at a posh prep school. Also starring Jude Law, James Van Der Beek and Kris Park.

■ **CRYING FREEMAN** (1995) *** Five 5.30pm-midnight. Japanese comic book-based action thriller. Mark Dacascos is kidnapped and hypnotised into becoming an assassin for a secret society but his brainwashing unravels after he falls for a woman who witnesses one of his slayings. Also starring Tcheky Karyo.

■ **BEVERLY HILLS COP II** (1987) *** BBC1 11.35pm-1.20am. Comedy sequel. Wiscracking Detroit policeman Eddie Murphy comes up against an illegal arms dealer and a sexy female assassin when he investigates violent robberies in Los Angeles. Also starring Judge Reinhold, Brigitte Nielsen and Jurgen Prochnow.

■ **KONTROLL** (2003) *** C4 2.20-4.15am. Subtitled Hungarian black comedy thriller. The lives of a group of disillusioned ticket inspectors working on Budapest's underground system are forced to struggle to deal with their increasingly complicated everyday grind. Starring Sandor Csanyi and Zoltan Mucsi.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS

BBC1 Variations WALES: 1.30-4.40 Local News; Weather 21111233 3.20-3.25 BBC News; Weather; Local News 3317294 6.30-7.00 Local News 687

BBC2 Variations WALES: 7.00 Scrum V Live 18213 9.00 Gardeners' World 1652 9.30-10.30 Simon Schama's Power Of Art 25590

ITV1 Variations ITV1 ANGLIA: 3.28-3.30 Angie Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News 403 ITV1 CENTRAL 3.28-3.30 Local Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News 403 ITV1 MERIDIAN: 3.28-3.30 Meridian Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News 403 ITV1 CHANNEL 3.25-3.30 Puffin's Plat(0): Fish with Ossie Purrys and the Fisherman 6.00-6.30

6.30 Local News Weather 403 6.59-7.00 Local News 55619 ITV1 WEST: 3.28-3.30 ITV West Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News 403 ITV1 WALES: 3.28-3.30 ITV Wales Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News Weather 403 11.00 It's My Show 6233 11.30 Hell's Kitchen Final 188720 1.10 Make Your Play ITV1 WESTCOUNTRY: 3.28-3.30 Westcountry Weather 3407861 6.00-6.30 Local News 403

84 As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Frasier 7287472 9.30

Ysgolion Followed by Bobby Friction: Generation 7/7, 57302841

10.20 **Posters** (UK) 9.30-10.00 Local News 10.00-11.00 Ma Canna Ullapool 11.00 100 Hotline Web 2000

2.30 10.10 Planed Plant Bach 99243768 3.30 A Place In The Sun 13848936 4.00-5.00 Planed Plant 74007652 6.30 United 78068229 7.30 Newyddion 13857589 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm 58895590 8.25 Talfwn Y Beird 9.30 9 Tan 9 99329132 10.00

Cine 40061346 10.10 8 Out Of 10 Cats 27282565 10.50

Uanmorion 29430350 11.50 **Bo! In The USA** 69797519 12.20

Man 1.10 David Warner 19130169 12.50 **Greats** of Television Programme 71873895 1.30 50 Greatest Comedy Films 1960343 4.15 Diwed

WHAT'S HOT TO WATCH TODAY

■ **CAROLINE QUENTIN** has hardly had time to get into her stride as DCI Janine Lewis in **BLUE MURDER** (ITV1, 9pm) and here we are with the final episode of the current series. That's the trouble with ultra-short runs – just four stories in this case – and it took the first couple of those to forget her as Maggie in the then just-seen **Life Begins**.

It hasn't helped that there have been much stronger police dramas around recently, not least **Prime Suspect**. No wonder the poor woman doesn't smile much.

She and police partner DI Richard Mayne (Ian Kelsey) bow out tonight with a fishy tale about the violent deaths of two anglers. The police

duo's investigations lead them to Paul Cochran (played by ex Holby City favourite Jeremy Sheffield) who, somewhat inconsiderately, gets himself killed, too. Still, Janine can cheer herself up off-duty: Oh... no she can't. Her son's being bullied at school.

■ **THE delights, or otherwise, of a great British transport institution come under the spotlight in **THE PERILS OF THE MOTORWAY PITSTOP** (BBC2, 7pm).** Ever since they were first introduced, motorway service stations have been the butt of jokes, condemned for rotten food and sky-high prices. Libby Potter checks them out to see if long-promised improvements have

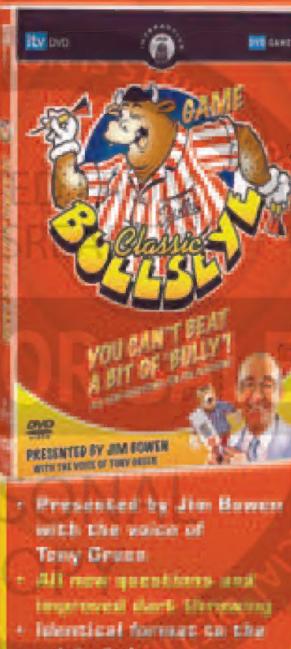
actually happened. My bet is that she should take a sick-bag and large purse.

■ **FINALLY, it's goodnight from Lee Mack and Tim Vine as surprise comedy hit **NOT GOING OUT** (BBC1, 9.30pm)** comes to an end. The potty pair continue to fight for the affections of Kate, with Tim thinking he's back in with a chance when Lee gets a job as a caretaker and moves out of her flat. But he hasn't been gone long before the mad-cap American realises how much she misses him and wants him back. It may not be much of a story but the gags fly thick and fast – and some of them are funny.

NEIL BONNER

itv dvd

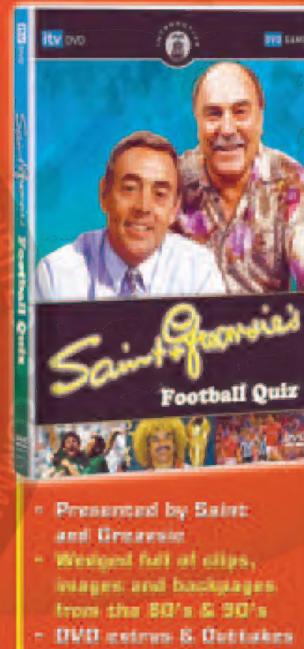
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STAR TV GUIDE

MATT BAYLIS



...ON LAST NIGHT'S TV

SORCERY was afoot on the airwaves last night, it seemed, as **THE LAST AZTEC** worked an unexpected spell on its audience.

Prize-winning novelist D.B.C. Pierre grew up in Mexico City, fascinated by the Aztec Emperor Moctezuma and his defeat at the hands of Spanish Conquistador Hernan Cortes. For Mr Pierre – or Peter Warren Finlay as he's really called – the world's indifference to this story is an injustice.

"People bang on about Egypt, Rome and Greece," he ranted in his opening remarks, "which is OK, you know, I mean, we got a few things out of that, but it amazes me that this hasn't been the most studied civilisation in the history of man."

After this shambling, mock-stupid introduc-

tion, we could have been forgiven for switching off right away. But within minutes the presenter had hooked us, dazzling us with a journey into the dark heart of Mexico.

It veered uncertainly between being the road-trip of an Aztec enthusiast, and a history lesson, but we were drawn into a tale that justified the passion of its presenter.

Greedy

When Cortes landed in Mexico in 1519, the sophisticated Aztecs were flung into confusion, since they believed him to be an ancient god, his return announced by comets, earthquakes and prophecies. An elaborate political ballet took place between Cortes, advancing with his armies towards the capital, and

the all-powerful Moctezuma, uncertain whether he was dealing with a spirit or a man. The stunned Spaniards were at treated as honoured guests in a city so beautiful they thought they were dreaming, but it wasn't long before their greed for gold led them to turn on their hosts. Within a short time, this complex society had been destroyed.

There were moments when this mammoth documentary became tiresome – especially when D.B.C. kept pretending to be Cortes in a Spanish accent. But his respect for the Aztec culture made for an impressive experience.

Steeped in Mexican history and culture, it's likely that D.B.C. Pierre genuinely believes, like the Aztecs, in magic. And after being entranced by this programme, so should we.

FILMS

SKY MOVIES 1

6.00am The Simple Life Of Noah Dearborn (1999) (PG) Drama, starring Sidney Poitier. 44669652
7.35 The Sandy Bottom Orchestra (2000) (PG) Adventure, starring Glenn Headly. 54938774
9.20 Racing Stripes (2004) (U) Family adventure, with the voice of Frankie Muniz. 88714126
11.05 Big Spender (2003) (PG) Drama, starring Casper Van Dien. 39746942
12.45pm Rebound (2005) (PG) Premiere. Sporting comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. 730565
2.15 The Sandy Bottom Orchestra (2000) (PG) Adventure, starring Glenn Headly. 508403
4.00 Racing Stripes (2004) (U) Family adventure, with the voice of Frankie Muniz. 17332652
5.45 Popcorn Comic quiz show. 170229
6.15 Big Spender (2003) (PG) Drama, starring Casper Van Dien. 38755836
8.00 Rebound (2005) (PG) Premiere. Sporting comedy. 98316
10.00 Sleepers (1996) (18) Powerful drama, starring Brad Pitt. 732381
12.30am Enduring Love (2004) (15) Thriller, with Daniel Craig. 312633
2.15 The Dreamers (2003) (18) Drama, starring Michael Pitt. 908701

4.10-6.00 The Simple Life Of Noah Dearborn (1999) (PG) Drama, starring Sidney Poitier. 573430

4.55 6.30 Blessings (2003) (PG) Drama. 12378237

SKY CINEMA 1

6.20am O Henry's Full House (1952) (PG) Drama. 38184923
8.25 The Bitter Tea Of General Yen (1932) (PG) Drama. 97006213
10.00 US Top 10 2004403
10.20 City Lights (1931) (U) Comedy. 10334652
12.00noon People Will Talk (1951) (PG) Comedy. 10428652
2.05 O Henry's Full House (1952) (PG) Drama. 53930671
4.10 City Lights (1931) (U) Charlie Chaplin comedy. 14880381
5.55 People Will Talk (1951) (PG) Comedy, starring Cary Grant. 80887836
8.00 The Beguiled (1971) (15) American Civil War drama, starring Clint Eastwood. 9933942
10.00 Straw Dogs (1971) (18) Controversial drama. 92586107
12.05am Conquest Of The Planet Of The Apes (1972) (15) Science Fiction. 3995594
1.50 The Beguiled (1971) (15) Adventure. 8670445
3.45 Sky Movies News 57/2675
4.15 The Bitter Tea Of General Yen (1932) (PG) Drama. 1752275

SKY ONE

6am Taste 7.00 Pokemon 7.30 Yu-Gi-Oh 8.00 Malcolm In The Middle 8.30 Malcolm In The Middle 9.00 Scrubs 9.30 Scrubs 10.00 Law & Order 11.00 Cold Case 11.30 Nooon 1.00 Scrubs 1.30 Scrubs 2.00 Cold Case 3.00 Buffy 4.00 Star Trek: Voyager 5.00 StarGate 6.00 Malcolm In The Middle 6.30 Malcolm In The Middle 7.00 Simpsons 7.30 Simpsons 8.00 Football Icon 9.00 Road Wars 10.00 The Race 11.00 Dom Joly's Happy Hour 11.30 Midnight Star 1.00 Mile High 1.50 Temptation Island UK 2.40 Football Years 3.30 Football's Hardest Away Days 4.20 Keen Eddie 5.10 Dream Team

BBC THREE

7.00pm The Real Hustle 7.15 Robin Hood 8.00 Celebrity Scissorshands 9.00 Torchwood 9.50 Torchwood Declassified 10.00 EastEnders 10.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 11.00 Two Pints Of Lager... 11.30 Celebrity Scissorshands 12.25am Electric Proms: Jamiroquai 1.25 Torchwood 2.15 Two Pints Of Lager... 2.45 Honey We're Killing The Kids

BBC FOUR

7.00pm The Secret World Of Haute Couture 8.00 The World 8.30 Nation On Film 9.00 Legends 10.00 Sight & Sound In Concert: Supertramp 10.30 Ol 11.00 Lead Ballerina 11.30 The Avengers 12.20am Legends 1.20 The Secret World Of Haute Couture 2.20 Nation On Film 2.50 Lead Ballon 3.20 Legends

E4

6.00am E4 Music: Uninterrupted 7.30 Wake Up With John Legend 8.30 Whatever You Want 11.00 Nothing But 2005 Noon E4 Music: Uninterrupted 1.00 Freshly Squeezed Extra 2.00 The OC 2.55 Beauty And The Geek 4.00 Scrubs 4.30 Hollywoods 5.00 Friends 6.00 The OC 7.00 Hollyoaks 7.30 Scrubs 8.00 Friends 8.30 Friends 9.00 Stop Treating Me Like A Kid 10.00 Unanimous: The Fault 10.30 Film: Alien Resurrection (18) 12.35am Porn: A Family Business 1.50 Beauty And The Geek 2.35 Stop Treating Me Like A Kid 3.35 Porn: A Family Business 4.05 The OC 4.45 Switched 5.05 Switched 5.25 Switched 5.30 Switched

MORE4

10.30am Countdown 11.15 Deal Or No Deal 12.05pm Paul O'Grady 1.10 Film: The Wind And The Lion (1975) (PG) 3.25 Thirtysomething 4.25 Film: His Majesty O'Keefe (1954) (U) 6.05 Deal Or No Deal 7.00 A Place In The Sun 8.00 News 8.30 Jon Stewart 9.00 Grand Designs 10.00 Film: Sexy Beast (2001) (18) 11.45 Curb Your Enthusiasm 12.25am Jon Stewart 12.55 Thirtysomething

televisionX (SKY 903)

10.00pm Freewiew 10.40 When Posh Girls Go Bad 11.00 Freewiew 11.10 When Posh Girls Go Bad 11.15 Foot Worship 11.30 The Two Jannies 11.50 Street Heat 12.15 Teresa Scott Unleashed 12.30 The Omar Show 12.50 Eurochicks 1.00 Freewiew 1.10 Eurochicks 1.15 Posh Show 1.30 UK Swingers 1.50 Au Pair 2.10 40 And Naughty 2.30 Super 2.55 Filthy British 2.45 Curb Your Enthusiasm 2.55 Posh Girls 4.30 Buffy's Adventure

RADIO

Radio 1 (FM: 97.5-99.8 MHz) 7.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Jo Whiley.
12.45 Newsbeat, 1.00 Edith Bowman 4.00 Scott Mills. 6.00 Scott Mills' Floor Fillers. 7.00 Essential Selection With Peter Tong. 9.00 Xtra Takeover With Ace & Vis.
10.00 Annie Mac's Mash Up 12.00 Fabio And Grooverider. 2.00 In New DJs We Trust. 4.00-7.00 Radio 1's After Show With The Trophy Twins. **Radio 2 (FM: 88-90.2 MHz) 6.00** Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jeremy Vine. 2.00 Steve Wright. 5.00 Stewart Macdonie.
7.00 What The World Needs Now – Thurt Bacharach Story. 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. 9.15 Alfie. 9.30 Listen To The Band. 10.00 The Weekender. 12.00 Mark Lamar. 3.00 Pete Mitchell.
Radio 5 Live (MW: 909, 963 kHz) 5.00 Morning Reports. 5.30 Wake Up To Money. 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Victoria Derbyshire. 12.00 News.
1.00 Simon Mayo, 4.00 Drive, 7.00 Five Live Sport, 10.00 Stephen Nolan, 1.00 Up All Night
Virgin Radio (MW: 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz) 6.00 Christian O'Connell's Breakfast Show, 10.00 Greg Burns, 1.00 Neil Francis, 4.00 Marlin Collins, 6.00 Party Classics, 10.00 Robin Burke, 1.00 The Edge, 3.00 Steve Harris.

SPORT

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00am European Tour Golf Champions Tournament. 9910300 10.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 4697920 11.00 Premier League Preview 6098403 11.30 ICC Cricket World 1783497 12.00midnight European Tour Golf 9586895 2.30 Premier League Preview 2420904 3.00 Rugby Union 4449850 4.30 Watersports World 8538614 7.00 Shift Adventure Snowriders 3029324

SKY SPORTS 3

8.00am Rugby Club 46651942 9.30 Carling Cup Football 2392484 10.30 European Drag Racing 52302300 11.00 Racing News 7081308 11.30 Aerobics 70810381 12.00noon Spanish Cup Football 46632809 2.00 Shift Adventure Snowriders 69996671 2.30 NBA Action 38486403 3.00 Victory Shift Football 79256316 4.30 ATP Tennis 3830039 5.00 WWE: Raw 52467045 7.00 Tight Lines Fishing phone-in. 52057590 8.00 Endzone American football magazine, 52860010 9.00 Moto Plus Motor sport magazine, 70902316 9.30 Rallycross Super Series Motor racing, 4046403 10.00 WWE: Late Night – Smackdown! Wrestling action, 70820768 12.00midnight WWE: Late Night – Bottom Line 31032695 1.00 Endzone 47441879 2.00 Shift Adventure Snowriders 49636695 2.30 ICC Cricket World 49648430 3.00 Tight Lines 58140966 4.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 45880508 5.00 Premier League Preview 31041343 5.30 FIFA Futbol Mundial 48205169

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Aerobics 3062039 6.30 Shift Adventure Snowriders 1869861 7.00 Aerobics 3743958 7.30 Shift Adventure Snowriders 3659565 8.00 Race World 7045720 9.00 Shift Adventure Snowriders 5000818 9.30 Aerobics 9980300 10.00 Live Pool World Pool Championship, 5875403 11.30 Pool 7641519 1.00pm Live Pool World Pool Championship, 3965671 4.30 World Sport 9305855 5.00 Transworld Sport 2202652 6.00 Endzone 9976107 7.00 World Sport The latest events. 2203381 7.30

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Just Jane



JANE O'GORMAN SOLVES YOUR PROBLEMS TODAY... AND EVERY DAY

What did I say?

THIS time last year I was virtually inseparable from a woman at work.

We travelled to and from the office and had lunch together every day.

She and her husband came to my parents' 25th wedding anniversary party and we all holidayed in Italy in June.

At one point she even asked my husband and I if we'd like to be godparents to her little boy.

But since September she's simply stopped talking to me. I just don't know what I've done wrong.

Suddenly she's blanking me and I feel dreadful. I feel she's thrown me away.

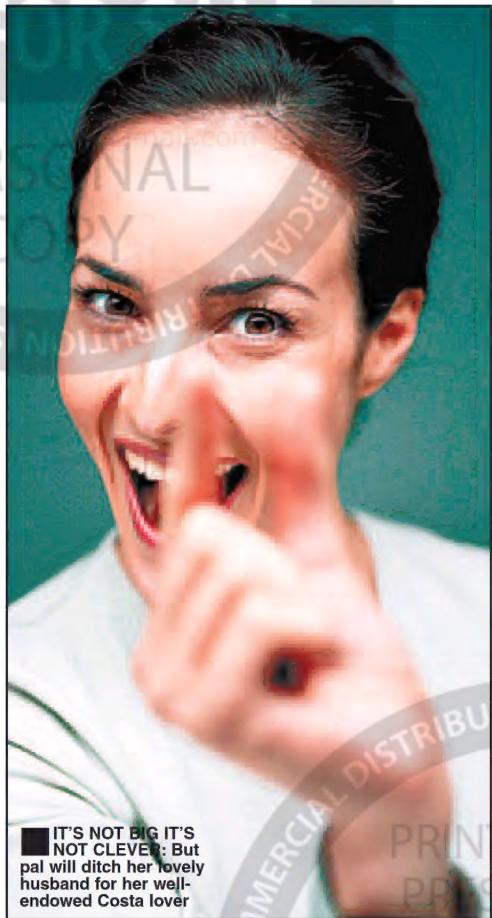
There's so much unfinished business between us, but she won't even look my way for me to talk to her.

JANE SAYS: I don't even know this woman, but I suspect that she's played these games her whole life. She doesn't make friends, she takes prisoners.

One minute she's as thick as thieves with her latest pal, the next she's off without a backward glance.

I suspect she's a very complex, messed-up woman. You'll never know what you did to upset her - if it was anything at all.

Put this whole episode down to experience and learn from it. Resolve to keep a respectful and healthy distance from any new friends and never allow yourself to be used again.



IT'S NOT BIG IT'S NOT CLEVER: But pal will ditch her lovely husband for her well-endowed Costa lover

He's clubbing with gold-diggers

MY husband goes to a nightclub where desperate Eastern European girls trawl for Western husbands.

He says he only goes to support his recently-divorced mate, who's looking for a new partner, but I feel very unhappy about this.

He's wasting our money in a seedy club, paying a fortune for

watery drinks and getting cabs home. I fear this place leaves him open to gold-diggers. He says I'm daft and there's no threat to our marriage. He's "just helping out a mate" ... but I'm not so sure.

JANE SAYS: Some of these girls are determined and ruthless. They

HUBBY IS SET FOR A YULETIDE STUFFING

OUR closest friend has no idea his wife is planning to leave him just after Christmas.

She's all set to move to the Costa del Sol to be with her secret - and apparently superbly-endowed - boyfriend. It's all arranged. She'll fly out on January 2 never to return.

Once in Spain she'll file for divorce and demand half of everything her husband owns.

She thinks it's the smartest plan ever. She keeps bragging about how great her new life will be.

And she goes on and on about all the sun, sea and sex she'll enjoy.

Several of us have already heard everything there is to hear on her new lover's massive manhood and

ability to make love all night. Meanwhile, her poor innocent husband, who is not so well endowed, is organising a sumptuous Christmas party - with her as the guest of honour.

He wants it to be a celebration of his undying love for her and their wonderful life together.

We're all due to go round to their place on December 23 for champagne, mince pies and a massive knees-up.

Shoddy

My friend "the bolter" has warned us all not to say a word.

She says that her husband isn't to suspect a thing and we're all to keep our mouths shut. But this is so hard for me. I hate lying and I'm really bad at it.

I like this bloke enormously. He's a really decent human being and he and I have always been close.

He doesn't deserve this shoddy treatment.

Should I be the one to say something? Otherwise, what should I do?

JANE SAYS: I suggest you turn down your invitation to this phoney party and make it clear you don't like it.

If her husband receives enough rejections, then he just might start asking his wife some pertinent questions.

Then your scheming friend may be forced to come clean and admit everything.

By the sound of it, something's got to give before December 23.

Anyway, what do you care about upsetting your friend?

If she's planning a new life in Spain and never intends to come home again, then it doesn't matter how she reacts, does it?

What's important here is that your male friend is treated with as much dignity and respect as possible.

If you're all he's going to have left once his wife bolts, then he needs to know that at least you are genuine.



I RECENTLY received this letter from a reader. She wanted to know what she should do.

I CAN'T stand my new partner's kids. They're 9, 12 and 14 and a bunch of manipulative, little brats.

He insists on having them over every other weekend and I dread their arrival. They are too demanding and get in the way.

They and he expect me to run around after them like their mother does. I refuse, and this is leading to huge rows.

The thing is, I didn't even know he had kids when he first asked me out.

Here are some of your answers...

THIS relationship is doomed from the start. If your reader can't stand her new partner's kids now - during the honeymoon period - then I don't hold out much hope for the future.

She should accept that she's made a big mistake and move on.

CAROLE LITTLEJOHN, Manchester

YOUR reader needs to be very careful. I liked my partner's children straight away and he took full advantage.

Within a few months he'd asked me to move in and I became a full-time stepmum before realising what was happening to me.

I have been roundly taken advantage of, but feel trapped as I feel sorry for the children.

Name withheld SHE sounds like a big kid herself. How can she speak so rudely and so cruelly about a few vulnerable children? She makes the wicked stepmothers from my childhood books sound almost soft.

The best thing she can do is get out of their lives before she causes any more damage.

BRENDA STOPES, Maidstone, Kent

HERE is this week's letter. What do you think this reader should do? Your answers will appear in TWO WEEKS.

MY girlfriend spends 90 per cent of our dates on her mobile phone.

If she isn't chatting to one of her sisters, then she's texting her mates.

It drives me crazy. Her thumbs are constantly twitching. Often I ask her what she's grinning about and she says: "Nothing."

But I'm sure that lots of the messages are about me and I don't like being discussed.

The other night we went out for a special meal and she didn't even turn it off to eat.



JANE'S ADVICE LINES

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I Want Bigger Boobs

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Sizzling Sex

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Stop The Split

0906 751 3145

We Argue all the Time

0906 751 3146

My Sex Life is Boring

0906 751 3147

Confidence

0906 751 3148

Coping with a Break Up

0906 751 3149

Coping with jealousy

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Fantastic Sex

0906 751 3151

Female orgasm

0906 751 3152

Finding the Perfect Partner

0906 751 3153

Great Sex For Her

0906 751 3154

I'm so lonely

0906 751 3155

Loving for the first time

0906 751 3156

Partner Affair

0906 751 3157

Having sex after baby

(Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline)

Write to JUST JANE, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN or email jane.gorman@dailystar.co.uk

WE RAISE A GLASS TO THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORD BREAKERS

SNAKES alive!



■ OFFICE POLITICS: Edd China drives his record breaking vehicle past the Houses of Parliament



SNAKE RATTLE AND BOWLER: Jackie's record attempt

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WATER BABES: Kathryn, left, and Rebecca



CITY OF LOVE: Couples lock lips in Paris

WHY would a man want to stick 10 rattlesnakes in his mouth?

So he could join in the second Guinness World Records Day, of course – along with thousands of other madcap competitors.

Jackie Bibby, known as the Texas Snakesman, set the record for the most rattlesnakes held in the mouth on The Morning Show in the USA.

And the event was held in sync with wannabe record breakers from Sweden to Australia.

Highlights included the largest simultaneous kiss in Paris, where a gathering of more than 1,188 red-blooded locals locked lips.

Flair

In Canada 2,000 dancers high-kicked around the Hummingbird Centre in Toronto for the longest Can-Can line, and Mexico hosted the most simultaneous games of chess, with 13,446 players taking part.

Closer to home, Brits showed just as much determination and creative flair. Synchronised swimmers from training circuit Aquabatix took the plunge in Trafalgar Square's icy fountains in London.

Kathryn Pounder and Rebecca McEnri managed a record 71 ballet leg switches in one minute.

Edd China, who holds several fastest furniture Guinness World Records, managed to design and drive the speediest office – it reached 87mph on a racetrack before he took it for a spin in central London. While the world's

■ by MARK JEFFERIES

shortest street at 2.05 metres (6ft 8in) was confirmed as Ebenezer Place in Wick, Caithness.

And Mr Men fan Joanne Black now has the biggest collection of Mr Men and Little Miss memorabilia, with 2,225 items.

MTV's acclaimed new comedy hit Strutter racked up 201 expletives to take the record for most swear words in

a TV programme. Elsewhere across the globe, 14,718 people enjoyed a cuppa with their sushi.

Some 40 dancers claimed a record for the longest dance party marathon, which lasted 55 hours.

Craig Glenday, editor of Guinness World Records, said: "It's clear that being a record breaker is more popular than ever."

Party

And Kuwait's Finance House broke the record for the largest cheque, which measured 12m by 25m.

Meanwhile Japan staged

the largest tea party with 14,718 people enjoying a cuppa with their sushi.

Some 40 dancers claimed a record for the longest dance party marathon, which lasted 55 hours.

Craig Glenday, editor of Guinness World Records, said: "It's clear that being a record breaker is more popular than ever."

"World Records Day is our way of acknowledging this testament to people's desire to achieve."

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6 Why no support for my mentally ill pal?

my neighbour tragically took his own life monday. he was mentally ill, no support or care, system failed him, R.I.P Magnus, Stevie

Great news, oil man quits. Bye 2 Bush too. Let's start loving our world and stop fighting. well oiled

blair is unbelievable. He does not support death penalty for saddam but seemed ok about sending our troops to their death!!! SMOKENO1

if saddam gets executed, it's by the laws in his land. didn't he know the consequences? Smirler

did u c panorama sundance? scum like that should be HANGED. WISEBLADE

WHEN CHERNOBYL BLEW IT'S TOP WE GOT FALLOUT HERE. GREEN TAXES WONT CHANGE ANYTHING WE WILL STILL GET CRAP FROM REST OF THE WORLD. COLIN, TALBOT

wot the govt going 2 spend all that green tax money on? more speed cameras probably. gary *

crashed brand new car within 10 seconds of taking delivery is that a record? the brushter

is it just me wot hates teenagers on mopeds? PAUL ROSSER

WEN GASMEN ARE TRYIN 2 GET 2 SLEEP IN DA VAN PLZ DONT PAP YOUR HORNS! ZZZZZZ sleepy sie

Re EMT, can't prove there isn't a god? We dont need to, its up 2 all u religious freaks 2 prove there is. Can u? LARL DISCO DAN

QUICKDRAW atheists have everything to lose, nothing to gain. DAD

to petertosh totally agree mate

weed shud b legal us hard working family men cannot enjoy a joint after a hard days graft. Gav, Newcastle

2 The Pm. In 2004 alcohol (4th dangerous drug) and tobacco (9th) caused 136,000 deaths n cannabis (11th) caused 16 in the uk! It shows ur safer if ur high. Legalise! Haggis

RE PETERTOSH AMSTERDAM HAS THE RIGHT IDEA, NO HASSE WHEN U TOKE ON A SPLIFF

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OVER A CUP OF COFFEE. JOHN, NEWRY, CO DOWN

GOOD ON YERSELF BRITNEY, GET RID OV THAT FREE-LOADER "C"RAP ARTIST STUMPY

NE1 else think the new all saints tune a copy of girls aloud? Tez, wakefield

I know the hoff well but i call him David. THE HOFFS MUMMY

ne wudb drummers outther? check out a Igor falecki on web. Liltl dude is 4yrs old! and he ent hif play the drums! Gecko

Genesis, the greatest band of all time, touring again is fantastic news. Shame there will be no Steve Hackett though. Matt, Darlington

is it me or does any-one else notice that cliff richard, slade and foster and allen must get skint at this time of year? dezzi

BORAT? BORING, MORE LIKE. BOB LONDON

Which shop do BORAT? BORING, MORE LIKE. BOB LONDON

"The price is right" go to? £160 For a toaster? Got mine for £6 from tesco! ELR33

y call it in a celebrity wen theres no real celebrities? my mate bum-belito more famous. bad news

Just saw that article on that 6000 calorie burger - any chance of getting that dark haired waitress on page 3 please? Scouser D

ur right chelsea steve, jen ellisons calendar perfection. MATT EFC

I AGREE WITH JOHN SE3 JADE GOODY IS A GODDESS. BARTOS

John, I also think Jade Goody is lovely! Will in hers

can any1 remember whizzball on com64? Wicked game. Beijo

It aint over til the fat lady sings.

Who is she? BINZ

Can any1 tel me wats v difference btween a boat n a ship? LAZY CARTER, M/BRO

Any sexy girls in hastings fancy a drink? I just bagged myself £10,000! tony

Stand up if u hate derby. derby dave

Great to see Emma Bunton doing so well in come dancing. Please print a pic for an early xmas pressie. TIM, CHELTENHAM

PICS
APPEAL

WE want YOU to star in our Forum page. Send us mobile pics of you with your mates or any stars you meet. Just text DAILYSTAR and send your photos and details on the pics - who, where, and your name - to 07786 200065. Messages cost £1 plus usual network charges.

Me and Alan Carr from the Friday nite project, broadway theatre, Barking. Jackie Kennedy

Those Macs are murder

I'm fi scotland and mac brothers are murder! get them oot. More talent in ma left nut. Stu fi edinburgh

Shaky, its english saddos that make all reality tv! big wakabuso, eccose

shaky, isn't it England gettin humped all the time? Scotland hav got a no bad team now. TAZ the BAIRN

judgement days gabba room best eva. easter 98 in scotland topped any other rave. dicky

2 all u so called hardcore ravers unless u went 2 Rezerection "equinox" 95 in edinburgh jus shut up! JACK

You dont know what a party was unless you went through the blackburn warehouse era! woody, st helens

kinetic was gud but the state and the drome in scouse land wiped the floor wiv it. jon da don

Kinetic good? the void in stoke on trent, now that's a club! bret b

has to be world dance every time, mickey finn and GQ Ruff! Gobble, kent ravers, if u wanna have a proper mad time, try the rock and blues or bulldog bash! Real music. spammer

2old2rave: never 2 old, just nod ya head! Happy raver

Who's all goin to the next fantazia then? Des

im startin a petition 2 get edith bowman off radio 1 wanna sign? BRING BACK MARK & LARD! bobcat, brum

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TWO women are out for the night and are caught short as they walk home, so they dive into a graveyard. Because they've no loo roll, one uses her knickers and throws them away. The other uses the ribbon from a discarded wreath.

The next day, their husbands get talking. One says: "I think my wife might be having an affair. Last night, she came home with no knickers."

The other says: "That's nothing! Mine had a card stuck on her backside which read, 'From all the lads at the fire station we'll never forget you'."

SHARON BIRD, Runcorn, Cheshire.

Jokes by text...

THE definition of mixed emotions: Seeing your mother-in-law back off a cliff in your new car. MULLET, Nottingham.

THOUGHT for the day: If practice makes perfect and no one's perfect, why bother trying? DAFT DAVE, Dover.

Text DSJOKE (space) name and joke to 82100.

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£10 LETTER

SO Saddam Hussein faces a date with the hangman.

It's a good job he wasn't tried in this country. He'd have got off with an Asbo and a hug.

JOHN McDONALD, South Ockendon, Essex.

THE American orchestrated trial of Saddam Hussein was a farce and the sentence a foregone conclusion.

When will someone have the bottle to bring Bush and Blair to trial for their crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan?

EVAN WILLIAMS, Penwortham, Lancs.

I CAN'T believe Des O'Connor is to host Countdown. Why not give us someone with real glamour who'd brighten up the show? I'd like to see model Nell McAndrew take over.

P. RHODES, Leeds.

BIG Brother's Pete Bennett wants to get married up a tree (Daily Star, November 7). Let's hope he stays there! Nikki, you've had a lucky escape.

J. THOMSON, Lisburn, N. Ireland.

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100	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	103	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£53,999
101	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	104	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£54,999
102	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	105	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£55,999
103	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	106	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£56,999
104	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	107	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£57,999
105	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	108	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£58,999
106	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	109	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£59,999
107	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	110	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£60,999
108	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	111	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£61,999
109	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	112	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£62,999
110	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	113	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£63,999
111	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	114	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£64,999
112	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	115	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£65,999
113	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	116	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£66,999
114	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	117	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£67,999
115	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	118	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£68,999
116	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	119	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£69,999
117	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	120	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£70,999
118	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	121	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£71,999
119	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	122	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£72,999
120	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	123	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£73,999
121	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	124	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£74,999
122	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	125	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£75,999
123	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	126	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£76,999
124	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	127	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£77,999
125	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	128	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£78,999
126	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	129	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£79,999
127	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	130	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£80,999
128	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	131	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£81,999
129	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	132	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£82,999
130	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	133	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£83,999
131	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	134	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£84,999
132	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	135	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£85,999
133	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	136	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£86,999
134	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	137	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£87,999
135	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	138	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£88,999
136	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	139	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£89,999
137	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	140	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£90,999
138	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	141	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£91,999
139	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	142	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£92,999
140	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	143	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£93,999
141	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	144	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£94,999
142	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	145	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£95,999
143	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	146	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£96,999
144	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	147	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£97,999
145	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	148	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£98,999
146	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	149	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£99,999
147	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	150	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£100,999
148	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	151	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£101,999
149	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	152	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£102,999
150	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	153	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£103,999
151	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	154	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£104,999
152	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	155	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£105,999
153	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	156	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£106,999
154	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	157	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£107,999
155	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	158	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£108,999
156	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	159	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£109,999
157	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	160	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£110,999
158	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	161	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£111,999
159	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	162	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£112,999
160	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	163	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£113,999
161	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	164	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£114,999
162	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	165	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£115,999
163	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	166	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£116,999
164	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	167	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£117,999
165	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	168	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£118,999
166	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	169	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£119,999
167	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	170	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£120,999
168	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	171	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£121,999
169	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	172	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£122,999
170	C4 1.6 VTR Coupe	£1,099	173	Zafira 1.8 16V 160 5dr	£123,999

It's the business

'Man is no more than a reed...but he is a thinking reed' – Blaise Pascal



THE Royal Bank of Scotland

finance chief who quit to enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle is making a move back into the financial world – and teaming up with an old chum to boot.

Fred Watts is becoming an non-executive director of investment management group **Old Oak Holdings** whose board also includes the former chairman of Royal Bank, Sir George Mathewson. One of Watts's key roles will be to advise on Old Oak's hedge fund manager, the operatically inspired Tocanfund.

KAZAKHSTAN has become the butt of jokes thanks to comedian Sacha Baron Cohen and his fictional reporter Borat, but the country is proud of its history of links to the UK.

Those ties will be celebrated at tomorrow's Lord Mayor's Show, when ten Kazakh stunt riders in full costume join the parade through the City of London.

SIR Christopher Bland, who bows out as **BT** chairman at the next AGM, thinks he has "at least one more job" in him.

The 68-year-old founder of **Thames TV** holds various posts including chairman of Edinburgh publishing company **Canongate Books** which has published two of the six titles shortlisted for this year's Man Booker Prize.

FILLING in forms and paperwork takes up to 30 hours a week, says a survey of 300 business leaders by **Bibby Financial Services**.

THE DEALER

HOT GOSSIP

SHARES in **Physiomics** jumped nearly 37% yesterday on gossip it had struck a joint venture deal with a major pharmaceutical company thought to be American giant **Eli Lilly**. The AIM-listed firm, which creates computer systems to test drugs, gained 0.18p to close at 0.65p.

Rivals byte into BT broadband

BT yesterday revealed that broadband competition from **Carphone Warehouse** and **BSkyB** had squeezed its share of new customers from 30% to 25%.

BT shares lost 6.75p to 25p, even though it reported second quarter profits up 29% to £629million.

Chief executive Ben Verwaayen talked down the effects of height-

ened broadband competition in the past three months saying: "The success of the newcomers is at the expense of cable, not so much of BT."

NTL this week also revealed its broadband growth had slowed.

Of the 9.3m homes now taking broadband via their phone lines, 3m are BT Retail's but another

million have been "unbundled" from BT's network by rivals.

Verwaayen said he would announce new cuts in broadband prices next week which would help fight off the newcomers.

Chairman Sir Christopher Bland stuck to his commitment to raise the dividend payout to two thirds of earnings next year.

FAIR SHARES

SHARES in **J Sainsbury** jumped more than 3% after traders got word of a possible private equity approach from **Kohlberg Kravis Roberts**. The grocer's shares, which finished up 12.25p at 414p, were up earlier in the day after Merrill Lynch predicted Sainsbury's will report a 75% surge in underlying profits to £206million at next week's interim results. Both Sainsbury's and KKR declined to comment.

NTL keen on ITV merger

MEDIA GIANT BID

CABLE group **NTL** is to discuss a merger with **ITV** that would create a British media giant to rival **BSkyB**.

ITV was the biggest riser in the FTSE-100 yesterday, up 6.5p to 112p, valuing it at £4.35billion as it said it would listen to NTL's proposal.

Analysts believe the move might flush out a rival bid from venture capital firms or US media giants.

A deal – likely to be for cash – would help achieve the long-

■ by BILL MARTIN

standing dream of Sir Richard Branson, the largest shareholder in NTL, of putting his **Virgin** brand on a media empire.

It's understood the move was put together by Branson and NTL bosses Steve Burch, Neil Berkett and Malcolm Wall, a former ITV executive.

Champ

"The joining of **Flextech** (NTL's production arm) and ITV's back catalogue would create a UK media champion," said an insider. "ITV has one of the best content libraries in the world that has never been properly exploited."

ITV's library containing programmes such as Coronation Street and Brideshead Revisited would vastly increase the potential for new pay-TV channels, Branson believes.

The bid comes at a time when ITV is engaged in a protracted search for a chief executive to replace Charles Allen.

Its main channel, ITV1, is in need of a shake-up as its revenues fell 8% in the first half of the year, hit by competition from digital TV and the internet.

news@digitalstar.co.uk

3i ARE DOWN – BUT STILL UP

INVESTMENT group **3i** has unveiled a fall in pre-tax profits from £471million to £367million.

But net asset value per share, at 792p, was at the upper end of City forecasts and the shares rose 8p to 990p.

Finance director Simon Ball said the group had low debt levels and he wanted to reassure any shareholders worried by claims that the collapse of a private equity-backed company was "inevitable".



STORM DAMAGE: Firefighter in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina

RSA profit hit in hot markets

HARD times in the UK commercial insurance markets took the gloss off continued recovery for **More Than** owner **Royal & SunAlliance** yesterday.

Chief executive Andy Haste said profits from commercial premiums had fallen from £92million to £77million and the market remained extremely competitive.

As a result, shares in the group fell by 3p to 150.5p, despite a 2% growth in underlying profits to £909m for the nine months to September. RSA benefited from not having to shell out on major damage caused by hurricanes, unlike the previous year when Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the United States.

FTSE100 SHARE INDEX ▼ Down 7.50 points (-0.12%) at 6231.50

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	▼	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	▼	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	▼	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	▼
3i Grp.	990	+8	991	972	1470	Corus Group.	470	+3	494	424	4530	Land Secs.	2141	+6	2148	1464	1035	Ryf Dutch Shell 'A'	1869xd	+11	1958	1711	6690
AB Food.	884	+28	888	699	1082	Diageo.	985	+8	991	923	1029	Legal&Gen.	147	-1	151	110	1036	Ryf Dutch Shell 'B'	1920xd	+15	2043	1735	6691
AMICO.	1026	-1	1026	988	1009	Drax.	874	+15	1073	538	1029	LSI Int.	1880	+1	1881	958	1036	SAB.	1093	+36	1198	1047	6718
AMVESCAP.	810	-1	816	517	1009	DSTV Int.	210	+1	212	148	1029	Logistics Int.	3089	+74	3098	1404	1036	Scotiabank Grp.	2040	+20	2064	1960	6801
Anglo.	2462	+12	2547	1726	4949	Experian.	581	-5	591	559	7733	Man Group.	486	-1	491	274	7789	Scot Int.	549	+1	570	474	1421
Antelagasta.	520	-2	520	320	3438	Frosts Prov.	210xd	-2	218	166	2222	Morrisons (Wm)	275xd	+2	279	170	7253	Scot Power.	1399	-11	1455	1275	6027
Arithmex.	305	-1	305	305	305	Gallaher Grp.	920xd	-2	926	804	2222	National Grid.	560	+1	560	500	7253	Severn Trent.	1427	-4	1960	770	5200
Aviva.	787xd	-3	850	674	3388	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Next.	1883	+3	191	1330	1036	Shire Pharmactd.	993	+14	1008	701	5200
BAE Sys.	411xd	-2	449	329	1010	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Nth Rock.	1185	+3	1213	804	3554	Slough Estates.	726	+4	729	528	1433
Barclays.	713	-1	723	580	1004	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Old Mutual.	173xd	-2	205	135	2782	Smiths Group.	930xd	+6	1052	831	1427
BG Grp.	705	-1	782	520	7274	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Pearson.	1345	-1	1428	927	2758	Standard Charf.	1485	-1	1540	1193	4987
BHP Bill.	451	-4	451	422	451	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Prudential.	637	-8	743	507	7481	Tate & Lyle.	1485	-1	1540	1193	4987
BP.	601xd	+2	712	563	1011	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Reckitt Benck.	2270	+3	2324	1764	1046	Tesco.	394xd	-6	405	303	1056
Br Airways.	458	+1	465	305	5258	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Resorts Grp.	397	-9	404	252	1036	Unilever.	1940	+16	1945	1125	5983
Br Amer.Tob.	1433	+2	1510	1242	1003	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Restaurants Grp.	457	-4	460	304	1036	Vodafone Grp.	1497	-8	1740	1262	3904
Br Land.	1620	-4	1620	953	1128	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Rio Tinto.	296	-28	322	2268	6699	Wolfsley.	1200xd	+5	1462	1063	3288
Br Mar. & Bins.	505	-2	505	333	1048	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482	Xstrata.	2354	-45	2480	1310	3421
Brambles Inds.	505	-2	505	333	1048	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482	Yell Grp.	582	-6	625	463	1025
Brit Eng.Gp.	475	-6	753	404	4514	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482						
BSkyB.	554xd	+1	573	478	3382	Hannoverthimeline.	18	-1	18	1407	1004	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482						
BT Group.	285	-6	291	203	1012	Kazakhmys.	1234	-8	1370	575	1357	Rolls-Royce.	455c	-2	491	364	6441						
Capita.	903	-1	903	803	903	Kelco Grp.	903	-2	913	757	1018	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482						
Cain Energy.	1889	+69	2508	1755	3643	Kingfisher.	276	-1	274	214	1908	Royal & SunAll.	150xd	-3	154	104	7482						
Capita Group.	557	+6	560	384	5263																		
Carnival.	2544	-8	3397	2023	2568																		
Centrica.	345xd	+7	346	230	1818																		
Compass Group.	284	-2	287	206	7663																		

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CHEERS FOR SMOKE BAN

PUBLICANS in Scotland have given the thumbs up to the smoking ban introduced in March this year. Giles Thorley, chief executive of Britain's biggest pub group **Punch Tavern**, said many tenants preferred working in a smoke-free atmosphere. Punch owns 493 pubs in Scotland and is planning to invest £18million in preparing its 8,800-strong estate in England and Wales for next year's ban, with food a priority.

Thorley was speaking as the company unveiled a 21% rise in pre-tax profits

BEEF REGISTRATIONS

AI LEO	£5,800
AEA 5T	£5,500
APHL	£3,500

CTY 50N	£5,500	M4 VAY	£3,800	1 EJK	£22,000	2 PNR	£5,800	3 PBL	£5,700	5 ATL	£6,000	9 AGR	£5,900	27 GN	£8,500	49 PAT	£5,600	72 DEB	£7,400
CUR 57	£4,800	MEL 15H	£3,600	1 PBY	£6,800	2 RTL	£5,900	3 PGL	£5,900	5 CRJ	£5,900	9 PAK	£5,900	29 AN	£5,900	59 BD	£5,700	73 NP	£5,900
D44 REN	£9,500	MEL 45H	£3,500	2 ANL	£5,800	2 SWN	£5,800	3 RDG	£5,800	5 GKG	£5,900	14 EL	£5,700	29 BN	£5,800	59 JOY	£5,900	74 BJ	£5,800
D45 TEF	£4,500	PEP 51X	£15,500	2 BCT	£5,900	2 TGS	£5,900	3 STR	£5,800	5 JEL	£6,000	14 FF	£5,900	33 KN	£5,600	59 ND	£5,650	74 BK	£5,800
DEN 77S	£3,000	RMA 1N	£5,000	2 DPN	£5,900	2 TSP	£5,900	4 CGL	£5,800	6 NET	£5,900	16 FD	£5,900	34 CN	£5,900	60 BS	£7,500	75 EC	£5,800
DRM 111S	£5,500	SP0 70N	£6,500	2 FJK	£5,800	2 WTR	£5,900	4 CJR	£6,200	6 SGR	£5,900	19 ET	£5,600	34 FM	£8,500	64 GP	£5,900	78 TC	£5,900
GOF 1X	£5,500	TOY 65	£12,000	2 LCB	£3,690	3 ASE	£5,900	4 JWT	£5,800	7AGR	£5,700	26 JEP	£5,800	36 BJ	£8,200	66 BO	£5,800	80 GJ	£5,900
V1 OYD	£5,500	V1 OYD	£5,500	2 NTP	£5,800	3 DSL	£3,580	4 NDW	£5,900	7 GST	£5,700	26 KL	£5,800	37 BD	£5,900	68 CD	£6,400	111 NX5	£5,800
LCA 1N	£7,500	V4 LVE	£6,000	2 PCN	£5,900	3 LSE	£5,900	4 NGP	£5,900	7 WJG	£5,900	26 RE	£5,900	44 LEO	£5,900	70 WL	£5,900	374 B	£5,900
M155 TON	£3,000	WAT ON	£5,900	2 PLP	£5,800	3 MWU	£5,800	5 AGL	£4,800	7 VS	£22,000	27 DN	£5,900	48 OB	£12,000	71 BO	£5,850	999 AFS	£5,750

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E3 ANG	£2,850	Y60 KYM	£490
P44 ART	£750	L15 AUM	£1,500
R77 BED	£250	26 LEE	£8,500
BAS 890	£1,650	E9 LMB	£595
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DAH 14H	£2,995	C9 MMP	£399
T3 DCB	£695	E6 MMS	£1,750
DDR 745	£1,450	MAX 61 P	£1,650
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Y4 DMP	£450	MSL 56Y	£395
102 DON	£3,500	NAT 580A	£950
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7680 EH	£1,450	NSV 533	£495
F46 EMA	£850	OG 7399	£1,750
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EON 44	£2,995	PAT 185W	£995
FAT 745Y	£600	L6 PKG	£450
FOX 900V	£1,495	2697 PO	£750
B17 GAY	£390	PYB 168	£1,395
Y16 GAV	£490	X25 RAT	£490
GFB 527	£1,200	RCK5 X	£1,895
JAK 340W	£1,150	REB 237	£2,250
B838 JAN	£750	RH 2363	£2,895
JAG 308Y	£899	E218 RON	£495
K15 HFC	£240	D9 RRM	£495
J6 HKR	£240	RUS 813M	£995
HAS 403	£1,295	R40 YAN	£1,495
HS 6868	£2,695	SHE 234M	£800
HSK 445	£950	E 5HEL	£2,750
JAK 340W	£1,150	S16N ON	£1,150
B838 JAN	£750	V18 SLK	£795
JAG 308Y	£899	P14 SMT	£250
J6ASE	£1,250	L15 SHM	£240
JEF 558W	£895	SSG 49P	£450
JEM 595P	£995	SUE 98	£11,895
JGC 687	£2,350	956 SYD	£2,750
JIL 500	£2,350	C5 TAP	£850
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D12 JMH	£650	D9 TES	£1,250
D20 JMW	£650	TKH 555W	£295
JO 110	£7,995	TOM 468Y	£1,795
JON 18W	£2,500	WAS 880	£1,450
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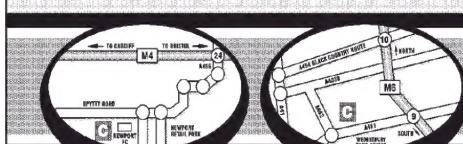
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HALF of drivers think of their car as being male or female, with 17% going as far as to give it a name. Sad, isn't it, but a survey by yesinsurance.co.uk shows that 36% of us think our car is female, whilst 16% say it's male. Amazingly, men are twice as likely as women to give their car a name, with one in 10 choosing from these top 10 names: 1. Betsie; 2. Freddie; 3. Babe; 4. Charlie; 5. Henry; 6. Rita; 7. Cleo; 8. Jasper; 9. Girl; 10. Gilbert. Oh dear.

MOTOR MOUTH

Small wonder



IMAGE RATING

HERE'S how the Toyota 1.3 T-Spirit fares image-wise.

REAR MIRROR MONSTER: It's swept back, OK, but trouble is the new car's gone so far back it looks like a boiled egg. Not a monster.

BACKSIDE BEAUTY: If you want it to be beautiful, and you've bought one, it is. In the real world, it's like any other small hatch. Dull.

PLAYTIME PLEASER: Air-con, trip computer, electric windows and mirrors, remote locking, CD-stereo.

NAUGHTY NIGGLES: Horrible, rubbery, gear-lever

gaiter. Very Allegro 70s and not in the least bit nice to touch.

TASTY TOUCHES: So much safety kit it actually won a five-star Euro NCAP rating. Impressive.

FAST OR LAST: Slow, slow, slow, but a decent cruiser.

WONGA WONDER: Phew! What do you want? Put it up against rivals like the Fiesta, Corsa and Clio and just get the best deal.

WOULD AN ESSEX GIRL LIKE IT? Definitely. Tracey would be a perfectly happy trendy babe in her little Yaris.

THIS IS YOUR DREAM MOTOR

THIS is the perfect creation, right. It's everybody's idea of what a car should be like.

Shame then, that it doesn't exist. The ideal car is the result of a survey by website New Car Net who asked people to describe their favourite cars and accessories. See if

you can work out which three cars it's made from, especially where the wheels come from.

Okay, you've had long enough now. The front end is a Porsche Boxster and the rest is the new Jaguar XK, only stretched to accommodate the four seats favoured by 68% of

people. The interior simply has air con, leccy windows and power steering.

Nobody bothered about rain-sensitive wipers, light-sensitive lights and heated seats. Who can blame them?

And the wheels? They're from a Toyota Avensis. Honest.





By GEORGE FOWLER

MESSAGE to Daniel Craig
star of the latest Bond movie, Casino Royale: Why don't you buy the personal registration plate D007 DANI, then you can look a right prat? The plate is one of seven million 07 registrations you can search for online from Monday by visiting www.dylaregistrations.co.uk. Once you've found your plate, call 0870 6000 142, which opens at 8am on December 5. You will, of course, have to wait until March before you can use it.



FACTFILE

Toyota 1.3 T Spirit, four-door.

PRICE (on the road): £11,810. (range: £7,995 - £13,280).

ENGINE: 1.296cc, all-alloy, 16-valve, DOHC, with variable valve timing (86bhp, 89lb torque).

TOP SPEED: 106mph; 0-62mph: 11.5secs.

MPG: Urban: 39.2; extra urban: 53.3; combined: 47.1.

CO₂: 141g/km.

INS GROUP: 4.

HERE'S a good idea ... not. Get back to the airport from the worst holiday you've ever had, find your way to the long term car park, then get off at the wrong bus stop.

I did exactly that last week on my return from Corfu ... a place I shall never, ever, visit again.

'Er in the passenger seat's covered in mosquito bites. Me? Oh I've just got them all over my arms, legs, face and bum.

It's not funny is it. My luxury break in a "bungalow" in a five-star, all-inclusive paradise, was a week in an upstairs room, with a bathroom and a balcony. All inclusive? You had to pay for bar drinks and ice-cream was for kids only.

Still, they were right about the beach. It actually was "only 200 metres" from the hotel - a wasp-infested strip of mud and stones at the bottom of a cliff.

Beggars

Back at the airport, searching around for the Yaris would probably have driven most folk insane. But not me.

It was a joy to be able to walk around without fighting off mosquitoes, wasps, cats, dogs ... oh sorry, I forgot to mention the cats and dogs. They were our uninvited guest beggars at meal times.

Finally, after 20 minutes lumping around the car park, I found the Yaris, strangely in exactly the same spot where I'd left it. That was when it dawned on me that I'd got off at the wrong stop.

Dumbo (that's me) drove back to a bus stop in the distance, where me and 'er loaded two suitcases into the boot.

Well, when I say "boot", in the case of the Yaris it will take one suitcase. The other went on the back seat.

Who cares? Not me, just delighted to be back home and at the wheel of a totally satisfactory little motor that does two million mpg and won't win you any

money-grabbing, speeding tickets. In fact, even the up-market 1.3-litre version of the Yaris that I was driving was so slow from the lights, it made you wonder what on earth the 1.0-litre version could be like. Probably mowing the lawn.

And then, as I drove along, it hit me. I was actually doing an absolutely criminal, "Oh I'm sorry please lock me away" 95mph on a deserted dual carriageway.

That's right, I admit it. Shove me in a cell (or at least get the 60 quid) because I did 95mph in a tiny motor, in silence.

Yep, total silence. That's how good the Yaris is.

This baby-mobile is going to get you locked up, with its mighty 86bhp motor and way-over-the-limit 106mph top whack. I suppose, for the outrageous speed I hit in the Yaris, Pid would have given me a massive bollocking, and all that nanny-crap "speed kills" garbage, before taking the state's 60 quid stealth tax off me, for daring to hit 95mph on an empty road, but fact is, according to latest figures, just 5% of accidents are caused by speed.

Most are caused by people not taking enough attention, but I can assure you that, at say, 160mph in a Mitsubishi EVO FQ 360 you are definitely giving it 100%.

Hey ho, back to the Yaris, and I'm sure you won't blame me for being not, how shall we say "totally involved" with the subject this week.

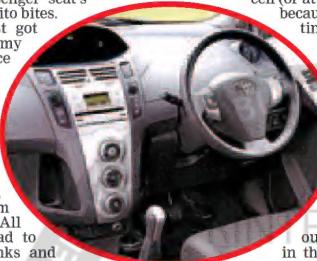
Changed

And that's because despite the "new" Yaris being launched at the beginning of this year, I couldn't find a lot different about it to its predecessor, which was Car Of The Year in 2000 anyway.

Apparently, the chassis has changed. Why? It's a little car that is just the same - brilliant.

You still get the same space-age dashboard and you still get the best small car on the market by a mile.

Say hello to the 2006 Toyota Yaris, every bit as good as the original.



WIN

A FAB SAT-NAV SYSTEM

Q WANT a sat-nav system? This week I've got TWO amazing slimline Roadstar Navigazione units to give away.

This little gadget comes with a high resolution, LCD touch screen display. Address searches can even be made via postcodes, while as well as finding your destination, it will also entertain you with its MP3 Jukebox. With 512MB memory, you can download MP3 tracks to play through your car stereo or headphones.

Q The Navigazione is transferable between vehicles and needs no permanent

wiring changes. It's even small enough to fit in your pocket, so you can use it on walks.

Q It's priced £229.99, but you can get one for free by sending a postcard, or sealed envelope, with your name and address to: ROADSTAR, George Fowler, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN by next Thursday, Nov 16. All the stamps go to charity.

Details: www.roadstardirect.co.uk or phone 0870 873 0084.



PRIZE: Roadstar sat nav

FORD SET FOR 30 YEARS AT THE TOP

Q NEW car registrations rose by 1% in October to 153,851.

The total for the year, however, is down by 3% to 2,055,739. Diesel registrations for the month hit their highest ever figure of 64,128. Ford, meanwhile, are heading for their 30th successive year as Britain's top selling car brand. They took almost 17% of the entire October market.

OCTOBER SALES

1 Ford Focus 9,665
2 Vauxhall Astra 7,263
3 Ford Fiesta 6,353
4 Vauxhall Corsa 5,008
5 Renault Mégane 4,965
6 VW Golf 4,365
7 Renault Clio 3,600
8 Ford Mondeo 3,427
9 Vauxhall Zafira 3,363
10 Peugeot 207 3,146

THE YEAR SO FAR

1 Ford Focus 121,000
2 Vauxhall Astra 92,731
3 Ford Fiesta 92,277
4 Vauxhall Corsa 62,667
5 Renault Mégane 55,971
6 VW Golf 52,367
7 Renault Clio 52,401
8 Ford Mondeo 42,854
9 BMW 3 Series 41,258
10 Vauxhall Zafira 41,221

FOUR-and-a-half grand would be a lot to pay for a sound system for your Audi A8 customers have fished out for a Bang & Olufsen Advanced Sound System, recently voted the world's best audio by motoring journalists. It features speakers made from anodised aluminium, the same material used to produce the car body. Its 14 speakers, acoustic lens technology and powerful digital amplifier produce more than 1,000 watts. When it's turned on, two tweeters rise from the dashboard. The speakers? I sometimes wonder what world I'm living in, and it's clearly not the right one.

BRAVO FOR FIAT

Q If this looks familiar, so it should, because it's the new Fiat Bravo, dramatically changed from the old one, but still, clearly a Bravo. I like it.

It goes on sale throughout mainland Europe during the next few weeks, but right hand drive versions won't arrive in the UK until next summer, when you can say goodbye for ever to the ill-fated Stilo, which never lived up to Fiat's high expectations.

There's a choice of five ultra-fuel-efficient engines, of which three are diesel, with prices starting from around £13,000.

The old Bravo was certainly a



GIVE US A STEER

Q WHAT'S the latest and best off-roader I can buy for £25,000?

Q If you're looking for badge prestige above everything else, how about the Porsche Cayenne?

To many it's the sort of car the company shouldn't be making. The high performance off-roader might share a few design details with the iconic 911, but it looks heavy and cumbersome... but, heavy yes, cumbersome, no. It offers more agile on-road performance than any other serious off-roader. We've seen 2003-registered 4.5 V8 models for £24,850, but it's possible to find automatic V6 models for the same money. Most of these cars will also be loaded with options.

Q Are there any drawbacks to buying from a

hard act to follow. It was light, bright and brilliant.

However, with a length exactly the same as a Ford Focus, Fiat promise "a compact five-door (five?) with a remarkable amount of interior space".

Overall, it looks good, but I'm not sure whether this black windscreens is a good idea.

After all, how are drivers supposed to see where they're going?

Approved Used Cars tend to be more expensive than cars from independent dealers - the cost of warranties, inspections and breakdown cover bump up the price.

Even after haggling with the salesman, you're still likely to be paying more than elsewhere, although as a package, the benefits represent good value.

Make sure you're not duplicating cover - you already have - do you need the breakdown cover for example? The salesman may try to push you into taking their finance. It's rarely cheap and you can usually find a better rate from a bank.

If you're browsing the forecourt, be careful - not all cars sold by dealers are Approved Used.

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MOTOR MOUTH EXTRA

Edited by
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HERE'S the latest motor to get its name from a desert tribe ... the Nissan Qashqai.

Latest? Well, we've already got the VW Touareg, which, like the Qashqai is a nomadic desert tribe.

The Touareg, as you probably know, come from the Sahara desert,

mostly in the northern reaches of Mali, near Timbuktu and Kidal.

The Qashqai, on the other hand, live near the Zagros mountains in south-western Iran.

And the car? Well, it looks big and butch in this picture, but actually it's a Focus-sized motor with high-seating, a

panoramic glass sunroof and a choice of 2.0-litre or 1.6 petrol engines and 2.0-litre and 1.5-litre diesels.

Expect it to start at around £15,000 when it goes on sale in March. So what's next? How about an Amhara?

As you probably know, these are the

politically and culturally dominant ethnic group of Ethiopia.

They live mostly in the central highland plateau of Ethiopia and make up the major population in the provinces of Begemder and Gojjam and in parts of Shoa and Wollo. Now you know.

Put brakes on this killer...

by GEORGE FOWLER
Motoring Editor

A THIRD of all cars could suffer brake failure without warning.

And as if that's not bad enough, half the cars on Britain's roads have defective braking systems.

These shock figures are the result of tests carried out by independent garages on behalf of car care company Comma.

A whopping 29% of brake systems were so poor drivers were unwittingly risking their lives every day.

Problem

The firm checked the quality of the brake fluid - the liquid which allows the braking system to work - of nearly 700 vehicles, many of them family cars, across the country.

Over a period of time brake fluid absorbs water from the atmosphere, which reduces its effectiveness by lowering its boiling point.

Brake fluid testing experts, Alba Diagnostics, recommend replacing defective fluid when it begins to boil at 200 degrees Celsius.

Anything below 180C is potentially lethal but, shockingly, some of the cars tested by Comma were as low as 100C - the boiling point of water.

At one testing station an amazing 70% of vehicles were defective, with 44% of those unroadworthy.

The problem has been labelled the "silent killer" by experts, given its phantom characteristics of sudden, unexpected brake failure.

Comma spokesman Mike Bewsey

said: "One minute your brakes are working, the next they aren't."

"Once your brake fluid is contaminated, there is a much greater risk that it will boil. This can happen under stop-start conditions, heavy braking or towing. There is no warning, and once the brake fluid has cooled down again braking function appears normal."

Poor brake fluid could be responsible for thousands of serious accidents every year, warn Comma.

Bewsey adds: "There is a real lack of knowledge among drivers of the importance of brake fluid, and how it works."

"Brake fluid is a safety critical item and it's important that this is recognised and its boiling point tested on a regular basis."

Phantom brake failures are tricky

for police to pinpoint, because if the brakes are tested mechanically after an accident, when the fluid has cooled down, braking functions will appear normal.

Only by testing the boiling point can the real cause be identified.

The situation has been looked at by the Collision Investigation Unit at the Metropolitan Police.

Victims

Acting Chief Inspector Mick Turner said: "We see too many victims of road accidents every year who have suffered a crash simply as a result of not maintaining their car properly."

"Drivers must make sure their car is safe, and that includes things that they might not normally think to check, such as brake fluid."

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